

Message Text

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65

ACTION CU-04

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9819

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL IBADAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, NI (BEKA, FRANCIS T.)

SUBJECT: FY-1976 NOMINEE BEKA

REF: STATE 130356

1. WHILE TRUE THAT CPP LISTS TRAVEL ONLY GRANTS PEGGED TO OBJECTIVES III AND V, OUR INTENTION WAS TO SHOW DIRECT RELATIONSHIP OF PROJECTS TO USIS OBJECTIVES WHERE THEY EXISTED, BUT NOT BE RESTRICTED TO THEM. ANY FIELD THAT SEEMS RELEVANT TO NIGERIAN NEEDS AND CU OBJECTIVES MIGHT BE CONSIDERED. A GRANT IN MINING GEOLOGY WOULD COMPLEMENT PREVIOUS POST EFFORTS IN IRON AND STEEL CATEGORY, A FIELD THAT WILL GAIN INCREASING IMPORTANCE AS NIGERIA DEVELOPS ITS STEEL INDUSTRY WITH ASSISTANCE FROM SOVIET UNION AND OTHER COUNTRIES. FMG ALLOCATING INVESTMENT OF N36 MILLION FOR MINING DEVELOPMENT IN CURRENT PLAN PERIOD.

2. FURTHERMORE, OUR ASSISTANCE IN THIS INSTANCE WILL HELP A NIGERIAN REPRESENT HIS COUNTRY BEFORE INTERESTED AMERICANS AS WELL AS SERVE TO ENHANCE HIS UNDERSTANDING OF AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS AND VALUES, PARTICULARLY THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OF WHICH HE WILL BE A PART.

3. FYI: PROF. JOSEPH MILLS OF WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT WAS VISITING PROFESSOR AT UNIBADAN (73-74) WHEN HE FIRST MET BEKA. AT THAT TIME HE EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR BEKA TO DO GRADUATE WORK UNDER HIM AT WASHINGTON STATE. EVEN AFTER LEAVING
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NIGERIA MILLS CONTINUES TO BE ADVISOR TO GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN

NIGERIA (ACCORDING TO BEKA).
EASUM

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